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RICHMOND DIVISION

F

AUG 7 2009

CLERK

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT

## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA RICHMOND DIVISION

X			
In re:	:	Chapter 11	
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. Et Al.,	: :	Case No. 08-35653 (KRH)	
Debtors	: :	Jointly Administered	

# CITY OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT'S RESPONSE TO THE DEBTORS' TWENTY-FOURTH OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CLAIMS (DISALLOWANCE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE TAX CLAIMS ON REAL PROPERTY IN WHICH THE DEBTORS LEASED THE REAL PROPERTY)

The City of Meriden, Connecticut hereby responds to Circuit City's objection to the City's claim for taxes, claim #8056, in the amount of \$15,770.01 and respectfully requests that the Bankruptcy Court enter an order OVERRULING Circuit City's OBJECTION to the City of Meriden, Connecticut's claim.

It is the position of Circuit City that the tax is for real property and that the debtors were leasing real property. However, the claim is NOT for real estate taxes on leased property, but for taxes on Circuit City's personal property located in the City of Meriden and for Water/Sewer use charges, as set forth below.

- 1. The City of Meriden, by the power vested in it by the State of Connecticut, has the authority to tax personal property owned by companies and located within its municipal boundaries. See, *inter alia*, Conn. Gen. Stat. §7-148 and Chapter 203 of the CT General Statutes, including, but not limited to, §12-40, §12-43, §12-49, §12-53, § 12-55, §12-58, §12-63 and §12-71.
- 2. For the October 1, 2007 Grand List, the City of Meriden assessed a tax on Circuit City's Personal Property for the amount of \$5,566.56.
- 3. For the October 1, 2008 Grand List, the City of Meriden assessed a tax on Circuit City's Personal Property for the amount of \$9,582.18.
- 4. Neither of the above taxes were taxes on Real Estate. They are taxes on Personal Property.
- 5. Because they are taxes, they are a Priority Claim.
- 6. The amount of the Priority Claim is \$15,148.74.

- 7. In addition, there are Water/Sewer Use charges dating to December 2008.

  The amount of the Water/Sewer Use Charge is \$621.27. That amount does not constitute a priority claim.
- 8. Attached hereto is Exhibit A, the Proof of Claim previously submitted to the Bankruptcy Court. The second page is entitled "Statement of Taxes Due", which clearly shows that the taxes are for Personal Property and NOT for Real Estate, as claimed by Circuit City.
- 9. The "Statement of Taxes Due" even notes that the property is leased by Circuit City. There is no attempt to impose a Real Estate tax on Circuit City for the property that they are leasing.
- 10. The "Statement of Taxes Due" shows the amount of principle due for the personal property taxes \$15,148.74 and the amount of the Water/Sewer use charges \$671.27. The total amount due to the City of Meriden is \$15,770.01.
- 11. The City of Meriden's claim is NOT for real estate taxes on the property leased by Circuit City. Rather the claim as set forth above and in Exhibit A is for Personal Property Taxes and Water/Sewer use charges.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the City of Meriden hereby respectfully requests the Bankruptcy Court enter an ORDER to OVERRULING Circuit City's OBJECTION to the City of Meriden's claim and granting such other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

Dated: August 4, 2009 Meriden, Connecticut CITY OF MERIDEN

Deborah L. Moore

City Attorney

City Hall, Department of Law

142 E. Main Street Meriden, CT 06450

Tel: (203) 630-4045

Facsimile (203) 630-7907

Email: dmoore@ci.meriden.ct.us

### **DECLARATION:**

Attached please find a sworn affidavit by Mr. Mordarski, who has personal knowledge of the relevant facts that support the City of Meriden's response to Circuit City's objection to the City of Meriden's claim.

### **NOTICE ADDRESSES:**

Michael Mordarski, Supervisor of Assessments and Collections

City Hall

142 East Main Street Meriden, CT 06450

Tel: (203) 630-4072

Facsimile: (203) 630-4068

Email: mmordarski@ci.meriden.ct.us

-With a copy to-

Deborah L. Moore, City Attorney

City Hall, Department of Law

142 E. Main Street

Meriden, CT 06450

Tel: (203) 630-4045

Facsimile (203) 630-7907

dmoore@ci.meriden.ct.us

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The individuals listed above, Mr. Mordarski and Attorney Moore, are the parties with authority to reconcile, settle or otherwise resolve the objection on behalf of the City of Meriden.

Dated: August 4, 2009

Meriden, Connecticut

CITY OF MERIDEN

Deborah L. Moore

City Attorney

City Hall, Department of Law

142 E. Main Street

Meriden, CT 06450

Tel: (203) 630-4045 Facsimile (203) 630-7907

Email: dmoore@ci.meriden.ct.us

### **CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing was mailed, first class postage prepaid, to the following parties:

CLERK OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT United States Bankruptcy Court 701 East Broad Street- Room 4000 Richmond, VA 23219

SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEACHER & FLOM, LLP Gregg M. Galardi, Esq. Ian S. Fredericks, Esq. P.O. Box 636 Richmond, DEL 19899-0636

SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEACHER & FLOM, LLP Chris L. Dickerson, Esq. 155 North Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606

MCGUIREWOODS, LLP Dion W. Hayes Douglas M. Foley One James Center 901 E. Cary Street Richmond, VA 23219

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA	PROOF OF CLAIM
Debtor against which claim is asserted: (Check only X Circuit City Stores, Inc. (Case No. 08-35653)   Circuit City Stores West Coast, Inc. (Case No. 08-35654)   Circuit City Stores PR; LLC (Case No. 08-35654)   Circuit City Stores PR; LLC (Case No. 08-35654)   Circuit City Stores PR; LLC (Case No. 08-35654)   Circuit City Properties, LLC (Case No. 08-35655)   Circuit City Properties, LLC (Case No. 08-35662)   Circuit City Purchasing Company, LLC (Case No. 08-35667)   Circuit City Properties, LLC (Case No. 08-35664)   Courchevel, LLC (Case No. 08-35664)   NOTE: This form should not be used to make a claim for odministrative expenses arising after the commence.	(Case No. 08-35659) ☐ Abbott Advertising, Inc. (Case No. 08-35665)  5660) ☐ Mayland MN, LLC (Case No. 08-35666)  Basel ☐ Patapseo Designs, Inc. (Case No. 08-35667)  Sky Venture Corporation (Case No. 08-35668)  XSStuff, LLC (Case No. 08-35669)  PRAHS, INC. (Case No. 08-35670)
may be filed pursuant to HUSC, \$50.  Name of Creditor (the person or other entity to whom the debtor owes money or property):	☐ Check this box to indicate that this claim
CITY OF MERIDEN TAX COLLECTOR, CT	amends a previously filed claim.
	PackID: 141960 Court Claim Number: (If known)
CITY OF MERIDEN TAX COLLECTOR, CT 142 E MAIN ST RM 117 MERIDEN CT 06450-8022 Telephone number: (203)630-4053	Filed on:
Name and address where payment should be sent (if different from above):	☐ Check this box if you are aware that anyone else has filed a proof of claim relating to your claim. Attach copy of statement giving particulars.
Telephone number:	Check this box if you are the debtor or trustee in this case.
1. Amount of Claim as of Date Case Filed: \$\frac{15770.01}{2}\$  If all or part of your claim is secured, complete item 4 below; however, if all of your claim is unsecured, do not lift all or part of your claim is entitled to priority, complete item 5.	ot complete item 4.  5. Amount of Claim Entitled to Priority under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a). If any portion of your claim falls in one of the following categories, check the box and state the amount.
Check this box if claim includes interest or other charges in addition to the principal amount of claim. A statement of interest or charges.	☐ Domestic support obligations under
2. Basis for Claim: MUNICIPAL TAXES AND WATER/SEWER CHARG (See instruction #2 on reverse side.)	GES  11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(1)(A) or (a)(1)(B).  Wages, salaries, or commissions (up to
3a. Debtor may have scheduled account as:  (See instruction #3a on reverse side.)	\$10,950*) earned within 180 days before filing of the bankruptcy petition or cessation of the debtors business, whichever is earlier — 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(4).
4. Secured Claim (See instruction #4 on reverse side.) Check the appropriate box if your claim is secured by a lien on property or a right of setoff and provide t information.	the requested Contributions to an employee benefit plan — 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(5).
Nature of property or right of setoff: Real Estate	☐ Up to \$2,425* of deposits toward purchase, lease, or rental of property or services for personal, family, or household use — 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(7).
Amount of arrearage and other charges as of time case filed included in secured claim, if any: \$\frac{621.27}{2}\$ Basis for perfection: \frac{MUNICIPAL}{2} LIENS	Taxes or penalties owed to governmental units — 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(8).
Amount of Secured Claim: § 621.27 Amount Unsecured: \$	Other - Specify applicable paragraph of 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)().
6. Credits: The amount of all payments on this claim has been credited for the purpose of making this proof of	Amount entitled to priority:
7. Documents: Attach redacted copies of any documents that support the claim, such as promissory notes, pu invoices, itemized statements or running accounts, contracts, judgments, mortgages, and security agreements.	urchase orders,
summary. Attach redacted copies of documents providing evidence of perfection of a security interest. You m summary. (See definition of "redacted" on reverse side.)	may also attach a *Amounts are subject to adjustment on
DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS. ATTACHED DOCUMENTS MAY BE DESTROYED AFTER If the documents are not available, please explain:	R SCANNING.  4/1/10 and every 3 years thereafter with respect to cases commenced on or after the date of adjustment
Date: 1/26/09 Signature: the person filing this claim must sign it. Sign and print name and title, if a other person authorized to file this claim and state address and telephone number if diff address above. Attach copy of power of attorney, if any.  MICHELLE ASST. TAX C	fferent from the notice KANE

Penalty for presenting fraudulent claim: Fine of up to \$500,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152 and 3571.



# STATEMENT OF TAXES DUE

INTEREST DATE: November 2008 CASE# 08-35653

Circuit City Stores, Inc. PO Box 42304 Richmond, VA 23242

TYPE	YEAR	ACCT#	DESCRIPTION	PRINCIPLE INTEREST	LIEN	TOTAL
PP PP	2007 2008	503889 503889	Personal Property Tax Personal Property Tax	5,566.56 9,582.18		5,566.56 9,582.18
				Total Priority Clai	im:	15,148.74
W/S	12/08	1131-144426	Water/Sewer *1020 Research Parkway	621.27		621.27

<sup>\*</sup>This property is leased by Circuit City. The bill covers usage from 4/1/08-9/25/08.

Total Due: \$ 15,770.01

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA RICHMOND DIVISION

x			
In re:	:	Chapter 11	
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. Et Al.,	:	Case No. 08-35653 (KRH)	
Debtors x	: :	Jointly Administered	

# AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL P. MORDARSKI SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS & COLLECTIONS CITY OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF MERIDEN'S REPLY TO CIRCUIT CITY'S OBJECTION TO THE CITY OF MERIDEN'S CLAIM

- I, Michael P. Mordarski, being duly sworn, hereby depose and state:
  - 1. I am over the age of 18 and understand and believe in the obligations of an oath.
  - 2. I have been employed by the City of Meriden for more than twenty-six (26) years.
  - 3. My current title is Supervisor of Assessments and Collections.
  - 4. I have held this position for more than two (2) years.
  - 5. I have personal knowledge of the relevant facts that support the attached Response to Circuit City's objection to the City of Meriden's claim.

- 6. The City of Meriden's claims are for personal property taxes and water/sewer use charges.
- 7. The City of Meriden's claims are NOT for real estate taxes for the property that was leased by the Debtor.
- 8. I have reviewed the City of Meriden's response to Circuit City's objection and it is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

THE AFFIANT MICHAEL P. MORDARSKI

Muhal & Marke

Subscribed and sworn to, before me, on this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 2009.

Deborah L. Moore

Commissioner of Superior Court